(c) whether it is also a fact that many of them who have been working with the Doordarshan for years together have crossed their age to get a Government job elsewhere, particularly in view of the fact that the Doordarshan has reduced the recruitment age from 35 years to 25 years; and

(d) whether Government have in view of its assurance for creating more employment any plans to regularise the services of young casual workers with the Doordarshan who have acquired adequate experience over the years?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (c) A number of persons have been engaged on casual basis to meet urgent programme requirements. Such appointments have been made on the basis of contracts entered into with these employees with their consent. It is made clear in the contract that the casual engagement will not confer any right to them for regular appointment.

(d) Department of Personnel & Training have recently issued instructions for regularisation of casual workers against Group C posts, as a one tme measure, subject to fulfilment of certain conditions. The casual employees of Doordarshan will also be considered for regularisation subject to fulfilment of the conditions laid down by that Department.

Pak's Representation of Amnesty International on violation of human rights in India

1780. SHRI M. M. JACOB:
SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has made false representations to Amnesty International about the alleged violation of human rights in India; and

(b) if so, what has been the response of the Government of India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH): (a) Government is not aware of any formal representation made by Pakistan to Amnesty International about alleged violation of human rights in India.

(b) Does not arise.

SPOs in Punjab

1781. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Special Police Officers (SPOs) appointed in Punjab;

(b) what is the salary being paid to such officers; and

(c) what steps have been taken to provide incentives to youth to join this force and to equip them to fight terrorists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) According to reports received 6683 posts of SPOs have been sanctioned by the Government of Punjab.

(b) The SPOs are paid at the rate of Rs. 30/ per day.

(c) Such of them as show promise motivation will be absorbed as Constables against future vacancies in the Punjab Police. The families of the SPOs killed by terrorists are eligible for grant of financial assistance to the tune of Rs. one lakh.